

CONNECTICUT JUDICIAL BRANCH

ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON CULTURAL COMPETENCY

September 15, 2021
2:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.
Video-Conference

MINUTES

Attendees: Judge Sanchez-Figueroa (Chair); Isabel Alvarez, Troy Brown, Sandra Cardone, Lia Cestaro, Patrick (PJ) Deak, Esther Harris, Zarin Kapur, Daisy Ortiz, Philip Strambler, Spiro Uyar, and Shawna Woodard

Absent: Chief Justice Richard A. Robinson (Chairman Emeritus), Juana Brown, Samuel Bruder, Brian Hill, Meghan Korn, Daisy Ortiz, Michaelangelo Palmieri, and Ewa Wojewodzki

Judge Sanchez-Figueroa called the meeting to order at 2:02 p.m.

The minutes from the July 28, 2021 meeting were unanimously approved.

Diversity Week 2021 Update

Sandra Cardone reported that the Opening Celebration has been moved to the afternoon due to a conflict with the keynote speaker's schedule. All sessions will be recorded except the one with Bryan Stevenson. The Subcommittee prefers to use Zoom because we can record in spotlight mode and the presenters are more familiar with that platform. We expect to announce the schedule to Branch employees by next week.

ACCC Culture Matters Video – Requests for Use

We do not have either release form (Judicial Branch or Middlesex Community College) from the actor in question. We will attempt to contact the actor to understand any limitations for using the video. A brief discussion ensued about clipping the woman from the video if the matter is not resolved. Isabel will schedule a pilot of the course she developed using the Culture Matters video.

Continued Discussion on Gender Identity

Lia Cestaro reported that the Subcommittee met twice and will meet again in October. The Subcommittee polled several entities, including Judicial Marshal Services, Department of Corrections, Department of Justice, and various local organizations to gather any information involving non-cis gender employees and the resources they have available. They have learned that the Judicial Branch is at the forefront thinking about this matter. The Subcommittee will schedule focus groups with Branch employees to gather more information.

New Business

None

Announcements

Troy announced Hispanic Heritage Month sponsored by CSSD. He is also arranging a visit to the Amistad for ACCC members.

Judge Sanchez-Figueroa requested that we move the meetings to 3:30 p.m. Shawna will update the Outlook calendar invitations. The next meeting is November 17, 2021.

The meeting adjourned at 3:39 p.m.